

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

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Public Statement by BCDC Chair Zack Wasserman on the Report of the State Auditor on BCDC's Enforcement Program

"BCDC commends the staff of the State Auditor's Office for their diligence and thoughtfulness as they worked on the audit of the agency's reinvigorated enforcement program. We agree that a consistent enforcement program is critical, and Commissioners and staff already have begun to implement many of the audit's recommendations.

"While there are statements in the audit report with which BCDC does not agree, we are pleased that the auditors found no evidence of improper staff conduct, such as bias or 'moving the goal posts,' as some permit violators appeared to suggest. We appreciate the Auditor's conclusion that BCDC generally approves and imposes reasonable permit conditions that comply with state laws. We also appreciate the recognition that BCDC needs more resources to improve its enforcement program and planning activities.

"The Bay is larger and healthier than when BCDC was created in 1965, and the public has far more access to the Bay and its shoreline. The audit's recommendations are a roadmap to help the Commission as it protects the Bay and makes it even more environmentally resilient and economically productive for all of the Bay Area."

BCDC's Enforcement Committee will receive a briefing on the report and discuss its contents at its regularly scheduled public meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 9:30 A.M., in the Yerba Buena Room, 375 Beale Street, First Floor, San Francisco, CA. The full Commission will receive its briefing and hold its discussion during its regularly scheduled meeting at 1:00 P.M. that afternoon at the same location.

Please contact Larry Goldzband, BCDC's Executive Director, with any questions (larry.goldzband@bcdc.ca.gov; (415) 352-3653).